



NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

www.sbcounty.gov/Biane

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 17, 2006

For more information, contact
Matt Brown, Second District Chief of Staff
(909) 387-4833

Supervisors Approve Plan to Issue Permits on the Web

SAN BERNARDINO - More than 60 different permits issued by the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works will be available online before the end of the year in accordance with a plan enacted by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

Second District Supervisor Paul Biane asked Public Works staff members to investigate the possibility of issuing permits using existing computer applications to make the process more convenient for customers.

"The Internet opens a number of avenues to make local government more customer friendly," Biane said. "Allowing people to apply and pay for permits online will streamline the process, which in turn will save our customers valuable time and money."

Public Works issues hundreds of permits to builders, residents, film crews, truck drivers and other customers every month. For example, a resident would need a right-of-way permit if he or she wanted to build a driveway that attaches to a county-maintained road. The 68 types of permits that will be

available online include, road closure, moving, encroachment and special event permits.

The county estimates it will cost about \$70,875 to start the Web-based permit system using a computer application the Department of Public Works uses to issue permits now. Ongoing costs, including maintaining an online payment method, are about \$25,500 a year. The system will be operational in about six months.

Once the system is established, customers will be able to apply for permits or check the status of permit applications 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Public Works will monitor use during the course of the year to determine whether fees should be increased to cover costs associated with the online system.